Vinson & Elkins

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October 21, 2002

BY FACSIMILE TO 212-637-5024 AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mr. William J. Muszynski
Deputy Regional Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

Re: Passaic River Administrative Order on Consent ("AOC")

Dear Mr. Muszynski:

On behalf of our client, Tierra Solutions, Inc., by this letter we request an opportunity for Dave Rabbe, President of TSI, and the undersigned to meet with you to address the status of implementation of the above-referenced AOC under which Tierra Solutions, Inc. is conducting the RI/FS for a six mile study area of the Passaic River. We are available to meet at any time of your convenience on October 25, November 1, 4, 6, 8, or 18 through 21.

As we advised the Agency during our meeting in January 2002, Tierra Solutions, Inc. remains committed to continuing to perform the RI/FS agreed to in the Passaic River AOC, and to continued cooperation with EPA. By letter of January 16, 2001, EPA directed that the Company suspend work on the risk assessment, sediment transport modeling, and treatability tasks. Given that the Passaic River Restoration Initiative is moving forward, we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you work on the RI/FS, and in particular the prospects for resumption of the suspended work.

We commend the Agency's recent renewed efforts to identify and notify additional PRPs and we are available to provide any assistance EPA might find helpful. As we discussed, it takes some length of time to move PRPs past denial of liability and then beyond expectations of a di minimus role to the point where they participate fully in the process.

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Thank you for your assistance. We look forward to seeing you. Please do not hesitate to call the undersigned as 713-758-2528 if you have any questions.

Yours very truly,

Carel densino

Carol E. Dinkins

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cc: Eric Schaaf, Esq.
Acting Regional Counsel

Patricia C. Hick, Esq.

Kedari Reddy, Esq.

Mr. Dave Rabbe President Tierra Solutions, Inc.

Corrine M. Hawkins, Esq. Senior Counsel Maxus Energy Corporation